

of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Collections in the network include DOE's **Information Bridge** (also currently available through **GPO Access**), the Defense Technical Information Center's Report Collection, EPA's National Environmental Publications Internet Site (NEPIS), NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab Reports, and NASA's Langley Technical Reports.

**Federal R&D Project Summaries** includes more than 240,000 research summaries and awards by three of the major sponsors of research in the Federal Government. The Federal databases available via this tool are DOE's R&D Project Summaries, the National Institutes of Health's CRISP (Computer Retrieval of Information on Scientific Projects) Current Award, and the National Science Foundation's Award Data.

### **Partnership Agreement with National Library of Medicine**

During the year, GPO and the National Library of Medicine (NLM) signed an agreement that assures permanent public access to key information published by NLM and disseminated as part of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).

The agreement, signed by Superintendent of Documents Francis J. Buckley, Jr., and Donald C. Poppe, Associate Director for Administrative Management, NLM, outlined provisions for permanent access to *Index Medicus*, *Medical Subject Headings*, *The National Library of Medicine Current Catalog*, *The National Library of Medicine Audiovisuals Catalog*, and other titles in the FDLP. *Index Medicus (tm)* was replaced in the FDLP Electronic Collection by *PubMed(tm)*, NLM's search service that provides access to over 11 million citations in MEDLINE and other related databases, at <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS4708>. Access to the other titles was established through NLM's "Locator Plus" application, at <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS4582>.

In signing the agreement, NLM acknowledged the FDLP as one of its dissemination partners and agreed to keep the online publications available permanently. In the event of an unforeseen circum-

stance that would alter their ongoing availability, NLM will turn the electronic files over to GPO for continuing access.

### **More than 500 Government Information Librarians Gather for Depository Library Conference**

In what has become the Nation's premier event for Government information librarians, more than 500 depository librarians and Federal agency representatives attended the 9th annual Federal Depository Library Conference held in Arlington, VA, in October 2000. The conference was held concurrent with the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer, and was sponsored by GPO. The Council is composed of 15 representatives of the Government information community who advise GPO on issues related to the FDLP.

Highlights of the 3-day conference included demonstrations of Web sites from FirstGov, the Defense Technical Information Center, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Institute of Peace, the National Agricultural Library, and others. GPO's ongoing transition to a more electronic FDLP was a primary focus of the event, while the Census Bureau and STAT-USA from the Department of Commerce, the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, the Forest Service, the Department of Energy, and others presented updates on their agencies' public information activities and products. The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science provided a status report on its review of the Federal Government's information dissemination activities.

Concurrent technical and information sessions included digital archiving, economic statistics, Presidential libraries, and library grants. Tours of the Senate Library, the Center for Legislative Archives, GPO's Library Programs Service, and the Library of Congress were also available for meeting attendees. Prior to the formal conference, librarians from the Nation's 53 regional depositories attended an all-day session.

### **Working Group on Permanent Public Access Policy Convened**

During the year, GPO convened a series of high-level meetings involving congressional and executive